

THE PERIL OF THE
SUBMARINES

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of despair. It is clear that they think the case is now hopeless. All the same, their only advice is to persist in the application of the same treatment.

Any other suggestion is vetoed. Their professional honour is involved in not accepting remedies which they have already refused to consider. What makes it difficult to persuade them to try an obvious cure is that it had been urged upon them by civilians and turned down by the experts with scorn and derision.

Have you ever heard of doctors who admitted that physic prescribed by unregistered practitioners was more efficacious than their own ; and that they were wrong all the time and the quacks right?

These specialists were at the head of the profession. How could you expect them to own up to those who had called them in and trusted them, that their treatment was inferior to that which herbalists and bonesetters

had recommended ? Bearing this professional sensitiveness in mind, we must not criticise too harshly their reluctance to admit their well-nigh fatal error in refusing to apply the convoy system.

Their stubbornness grew with every aggravation in the case they were mishandling so crassly and so cruelly.

But what ought the War Cabinet to have done in the face of this official refractoriness ?

When it is a matter of life and death it is a serious *Difficulty of thing for amateurs to* interfere, and *intervention in ? . . . 1 - 1*

Naval policy recklessly exercise their authority by over-

riding the opinion of the most famous
specialists that are available in the
Kingdom. How
much greater an act of temerity would it
be were it
a question of the life and death of a
whole nation !
You could, of course, call in another
specialist. But
who was there whose reputation stood
as high in
naval councils as Admiral Jellicoe ?
Admiral Beatty